



Docket No.: SHO-0054  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Kazuo Okada

Application No.: 10/697,256

**Confirmation No.: 9221**

Filed: October 31, 2003

Art Unit: N/A

For: GAMING MACHINE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
- excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication as waived by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 or has entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55).

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

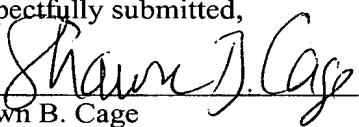
1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)). The Patent Office is NOT AUTHORIZED to charge deposit account 18-0013 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p). However, ONLY IF a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 for payment of the fee under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p).

a. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

2. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Dated: April 27, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Shawn B. Cage

Registration No.: 51,522  
Attorney for Applicant

**RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER, PLLC**  
Lion Building  
1233 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 501  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Tel: (202) 955-3750  
Fax: (202) 955-3751  
Customer No. 23353

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	10/697,256-Conf. #9221
Filing Date	October 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	Kazuo Okada
Art Unit	N/A
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned

Sheet

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of

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Attorney Docket Number

SHO-0054

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
AA	US-6,517,433-B2	02-11-2003	WMS Gaming		

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
BA	EP-1391856-A	02-25-2004	Aruze Corporation			
BB	WO-03/039699-A	05-15-2003	Aristocrat Technologies Australia Pty Ltd			
BC	EP-1260928-A	11-27-2002	WMS Gaming			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

#### NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
CA	European Search Report		

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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